



Docket No. 22645-7013

#17/A
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4/3/03

Certificate of Mailing/Transmission (37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)):

[X] Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, I hereby certify that this paper and all enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on the date indicated below in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231.

Dated: 3-21-03 Name of Person Certifying: Pam Golden
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Robert J. Fretz et al.

Assignee:

Filing Date: October 28, 1999

Examiner: Phylesha L. Dabney

Serial No.: 09/341,994

Group Art Unit: 2643

Title: **BEHIND THE EAR HEARING AID SYSTEM**

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Technology Center 2600

RESPONSE/AMENDMENT

This is a response to the Office Action dated September 24, 2002. Please amend the above-referenced application as follows. This response is accompanied by a petition for a three-month extension of time to extend the period to respond to the Office Action to March 24, 2003, and the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and § 1.17. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

CHANGE OF FIRM NAME

Please note that the firm name "McCutchen Doyle Brown and Enersen LLP" has been changed as a result of a merger. The new firm name is "Bingham McCutchen LLP". Please address all further correspondence in the above-identified matter to the undersigned at:

David G. Beck
Bingham McCutchen LLP
3 Embarcadero Center, Suite 1800
San Francisco, CA 94111

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